

# *Proclamation*

## *Presented*

### **In Recognition of the Japanese Women's Society Foundation's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**WHEREAS**, the Japanese Women's Society Foundation traces its roots back to the Women's Charity Organization, which grew from the Japanese Benevolent Society in 1887 to provide aid to contract laborers migrating to Hawai'i from Japan, later restructuring as the Women's Charity Organization while continuing to support those in need in Hawai'i, eventually helping form Kuakini Medical Center; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1954 Mrs. Shinjiro Tamura, wife of the Japanese Consul General, provided the impetus for the founding of the Japanese Women's Society of Honolulu to help organize the efforts of service-oriented women in Hawai'i's Japanese community and provide a bridge for a warm and productive relationship between Hawai'i and Japan; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1956, the membership of the Japanese Women's Society of Honolulu focused its efforts around the establishment of a geriatric care home as an ambitious long-term project, culminating in a partnership with Kuakini Medical Center and raising funds to open what would become Hale Pulama Mau; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006 the Japanese Women's Society of Honolulu was renamed as the Japanese Women's Society Foundation, and reaffirmed its commitment care for the elderly, expanding its service beyond Hale Pulama Mau to provide support to care homes throughout the state; and


**WHEREAS**, on July 27, 2014, the Japanese Women's Society Foundation will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service in Honolulu at the Hawai'i Prince Hotel, while recognizing the enduring dedication of its four surviving founding members, **Elizabeth Russell, Rose Kamuri Shigemura, Mariko Sumida, and Lillian Yajima;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 27, 2014, as

### **"JAPANESE WOMEN'S SOCIETY FOUNDATION DAY"**

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the Foundation for continuing to build on an impressive legacy as leaders in the area of aging, particularly with regards to women, while providing scholarships to strengthen the commitment of future generations to addressing the needs of our *kūpuna*.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fifth day of July 2014.

  
**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i